

Ryan Taylor
AP English Language and Composition
Composition: Gender Essay
27 May 2009

12.1 Using capital letters correctly

MY SENTENCE: Over the course of the twentieth Century, a great deal of things changed in America.

EXPLANATION: Always capitalize proper nouns and proper adjectives. I got my information from the Holt Handbook on page 298.

REVISED EXAMPLE: Over the course of the twentieth century, a great deal of things changed in America.

ORIGINAL EXAMPLE: The troll was sitting under the bridge.

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16.1 Choose the best word

MY SENTENCE: Over the course of the twentieth century a great deal of things changed in America.

EXPLANATION: Mr. Lane said so.

REVISED EXAMPLE: Over the course of the twentieth century a great deal of change took place in America.

ORIGINAL EXAMPLE: The man's resentment at being passed over for promotion was evident.

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6.3 Italics/Underlining

MY SENTENCE: A prime example of this in the media of the twentieth century is the classic movie Indiana Jones and the Raiders of the Lost Ark.

EXPLANATION: Use italics (underlining) for titles and subtitles of books, plays, long poems, works of art, films, radio and television series, long musical works and recordings, videos, video and computer games, and comic strips. I got my information from the Holt Handbook on page 362.

REVISED EXAMPLE: A prime example of this in the media of the twentieth century is the classic movie *Indiana Jones and the Raiders of the Lost Ark*.

ORIGINAL EXAMPLE: I saw *Romeo and Juliet* last night.

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5.7 Unnecessary commas

MY SENTENCE: Filmed in 1981, this movie created one of the most iconic film characters of all time, while simultaneously defying several stereotypes that while less prevalent when the movie was made, were very strong during the time period in which the movie was set.

EXPLANATION: Too many commas can be confusing. Use them only when necessary or if the meaning of the sentences would be unclear without them. I got my information from the Holt Handbook on page 348.

REVISED EXAMPLE: Filmed in 1981, this movie created one of the most iconic film characters of all time while_ simultaneously defying several stereotypes that while less prevalent when the movie was made, were very strong during the time period in which the movie was set.

ORIGINAL EXAMPLE: I went to home_ after I went to the movie.

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5.3 Nonessential elements

MY SENTENCE: Filmed in 1981, this movie created one of the most iconic film characters of all time while simultaneously defying several stereotypes that while less prevalent when the movie was made, were very strong during the time period in which the movie was set.

EXPLANATION: Use commas to set off nonessential subordinate clauses and nonessential participle phrases. I got my information from the Holt Handbook on page 338.

REVISED EXAMPLE: Filmed in 1981, this movie created one of the most iconic film characters of all time while simultaneously defying several stereotypes that, while less prevalent when the movie was made, were very strong during the time period in which the movie was set.

ORIGINAL EXAMPLE: The news paper, which came this morning, has a very lengthy article about the mayor.

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4.1 Periods and question marks

MY SENTENCE: The use of generalities and stereotypes in movies is a common way that film makers establish a character's traits and personality, for example, "women with blond hair are less intelligent" (The Concerns About Movies)

EXPLANATION: An end mark – a period, question mark, or an exclamation point – is used to indicate the purpose of a sentence. I got my information from the Holt Handbook on page 326.

REVISED EXAMPLE: The use of generalities and stereotypes in movies is a common way that film makers establish a character's traits and personality, for example, "women with blonde hair are less intelligent" (The Concerns About Movies).

ORIGINAL EXAMPLE: They told me to come down here.

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4.1 Periods and question marks

MY SENTENCE: But what about broader gender stereotypes in movies, such as “men are more concerned about their careers,” while women “are generally more concerned with personal relationships?” (Talking to Kids About Gender Stereotypes)

EXPLANATION: An end mark – a period, question mark, or an exclamation point – is used to indicate the purpose of a sentence. I got my information from the Holt Handbook on page 326.

REVISED EXAMPLE: But what about broader gender stereotypes in movies, such as “men are more concerned about their careers,” while women “are generally more concerned with personal relationships?” (Talking to Kids About Gender Stereotypes).

ORIGINAL EXAMPLE: They told me to come down here.

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13.1 In-text citation

MY SENTENCE: But what about broader gender stereotypes in movies, such as “men are more concerned about their careers,” while women “are generally more concerned with personal relationships?” (Talking to Kids About Gender Stereotypes)

EXPLANATION: Use in-text citation to specify where you cite a specific author or source in an essay. I got my information from the FHS Research Guide on page 18.

REVISED EXAMPLE: But what about broader gender stereotypes in movies, such as “men are more concerned about their careers,” while women “are generally more concerned with personal relationships?” (Talking to Kids About Gender Stereotypes)_

ORIGINAL EXAMPLE: Bears almost never chase people up trees (Bill's Wilderness Guide)_

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6.3 Italics/Underlining

MY SENTENCE: The main character of the Raiders of the Lost Ark is, of course, Indiana Jones.

EXPLANATION: Use italics (underlining) for titles and subtitles of books, plays, long poems, works of art, films, radio and television series, long musical works and recordings, videos, video and computer games, and comic strips. I got my information from the Holt Handbook on page 362.

REVISED EXAMPLE: The main character of the *Raiders of the Lost Ark* is, of course, Indiana Jones.

ORIGINAL EXAMPLE: I saw *Romeo and Juliet* last night.

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5.2 Independent clauses

MY SENTENCE: Just look at movies like The Mummy and even James Bond; despite James Bond being much smoother the same action-hero motif is still there.

EXPLANATION: Use a comma before a coordinating conjunction (*and, but, for, nor, or, so, or yet*) when it joins independent clauses. I got my information from the Holt Handbook on page 336.

REVISED EXAMPLE: Just look at movies like The Mummy and even James Bond; despite James Bond being much smoother, the same action-hero motif is still there.

ORIGINAL EXAMPLE: I finished my math homework first, then started on my other work.

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16.2 Avoid references to the reader/author

MY SENTENCE: In one scene, actually the first scene in which we meet Marian, we find her in a shot-drinking contest with a very large man in the bar she owns.

EXPLANATION: Mr. Lane said so.

REVISED EXAMPLE: In one scene, actually the first scene with Marian, we find her in a shot-drinking contest with a very large man in the bar she owns.

ORIGINAL EXAMPLE: Tom Sawyer is a classic novel ~~by Mark Twain~~.

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8.2 Dangling modifiers

MY SENTENCE: She paints herself in this particular scene as a woman who has been taken advantage of, a stereotypical point of women in movies in her position.

EXPLANATION: A modifying word, phrase, or clause that does not clearly modify any word or word group in a sentence is a dangling modifier. I got my information from the Holt Handbook on page 252.

REVISED EXAMPLE: She paints herself in this particular scene as a woman who has been taken advantage of, a stereotypical point of women in movies in her position, that is, the classic young girl who used to be with the action hero.

ORIGINAL EXAMPLE: We couldn't see the car in the dark.

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5.3 Nonessential elements

MY SENTENCE: The villain Belloq, for example, is the typical womanizer by the way he interacts with Marian.

EXPLANATION: Use commas to set off nonessential subordinate clauses and nonessential participle phrases. got my information from the Holt Handbook on page 338.

REVISED EXAMPLE: The villain, Belloq, for example, is the typical womanizer by the way he interacts with Marian.

ORIGINAL EXAMPLE: The news paper, which came this morning, has a very lengthy article about the mayor.